

Message Text

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51

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 STR-04 CEA-01 /128 W
----- 016373

R 091230Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7210
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: UN, EGEN, CA

SUBJ: CONSULATIONS ON DEALING WITH REFERENCES TO CERDS AND
NIEO RESOLUTION IN VARIOUS UN FORUMS

REF: (A) OTTAWA 2868; (B) STATE 133602; (C) GENEVA 6103

1. SUMMARY: ON AUGUST 7 ECON COUNSELOR MET AT EXTAFF WITH HARDY (DIRECTOR GENERAL, UN BUREAU) AND DOLGIN (DEPUTY DIRECTOR, UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS DIVISION) TO RECEIVE GOC REACTIONS TO U.S. IDEAS ON HOW TO DEAL WITH REFERENCES IN UN FORUMS TO CERDS AND NIEO. HARDY MADE CLEAR THAT GOC PREFERS "MORE POLITICAL" STANCE AND DOES NOT FAVOR SYSTEMATIZING DC APPROACH AT PRESENT TIME. END SUMMARY.

2. ECON COUNSELOR REVIEWED BACKGROUND FOR HARDY AND EMPHASIZED THAT U.S. APPROACH NOT INTENDED TO BE CONFRONTATIONAL BUT ON CONTRARY TO REDUCE CONFRONTATIONAL ASPECTS OF UN MEETING BY MINIMIZING TIME DEVOTED TO STERILE DEBATE AND NEGOTIATION ON TANGENTIAL REFERENCES TO DISAGREED DOCUMENTS. ON BASIS OF REF C, HE INFORMED HARDY THAT PROPOSED INFORMAL MEETING IN GENEVA HAD NOT TAKEN PLACE DUE TO PRESS OF ECOSOC BUSINESS AND THAT MATTER WAS TEMPORARILY ON ICE, BUT MIGHT BE TAKEN UP AGAIN IN NEW YORK. IN MEANTIME, U.S. WOULD APPRECIATE INDICATION OF GOC REACTIONS.

3. HARDY SAID GOC HAD CAREFULLY REVIEWED EMBASSY'S AIDE MEMOIRE (BASED ON REF B). GOC RECOGNIZES THAT THERE IS A REAL PROBLEM BUT THINKS APPROACH TO A SOLUTION SHOULD BE "NOT SO PURITANICAL." LDCS, DESPITE INCONVENIENCES THEY HAVE CAUSED, HAVE SUCCEEDED IN CALLING WORLD'S ATTENTION TO THEIR SITUATION AND HAVE CREATED GENERAL AWARENESS THAT THERE MUST BE FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN WORLD ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS. GOC IS SYMPATHETIC TO THIS NEED FOR CHANGE AND CONSIDERS THAT PROBLEMS CITED BY U.S. MUST BE VIEWED FROM A MORE POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE, EVEN THOUGH CANADA BY AND LARGE AGREES WITH U.S. ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.

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4. HARDY SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO DEVELOP COMMON APPROACH BY WESTERN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY APPROACH AS DETAILED AS U.S. IS SUGGESTING. SUCH A COMMON APPROACH WOULD BUILD IN TOO MUCH RIGIDITY AND WOULD MEAN, IN EFFECT, AUTOMATIC DEFENSE OF STATUS QUO, A POSITION WHICH CANADA COULD NOT ACCEPT. HARDY NOTED THAT FRANCE AND SWEDEN FOLLOW A FLEXIBLE AND "NON-THEOLOGICAL"

APPROACH AND HAVE GAINED ADVANTAGES FROM IT. (ASKED TO IDENTIFY THESE ADVANTAGES, HARDY OFFERED A FEW GENERALITIES SUCH AS "GOOD WILL" AND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT "IN SOME CASES" THE FLEXIBILITY IS BASED ON CYNICAL ATTITUDE THAT UN RESOLUTIONS MEAN NOTHING IN PRACTICE).

5. HARDY EXPRESSED OPINION THAT G-77 HARD LINE AND CONFRONTATIONAL ATMOSPHERE IN RECENT YEARS IN UN FORUMS HAS BEEN A PHASE WHICH ALREADY COMING TO END. HE MENTIONED IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE AT ECOSOC AND SPLIT AMONG AFRICANS AT KAMPALA AS EVIDENCE LDCS MAY BEGIN TO DEAL WITH INDIVIDUAL ISSUES ON MERITS AND IN LIGHT OF INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL INTERESTS. HE NOTED ALSO THAT COMMONWEALTH DCS AND LDCS NOW SEEM TO BE ABLE TO DISCUSS ISSUES IN MORE RATIONAL FASHION. THUS, HE SAID, WE CAN EXPECT THAT CONFRONTATIONAL PROBLEM WON'T CONTINUE TO EXIST, AT LEAST IN SUCH CONCENTRATED FORM. GIVEN THIS CHANGING SITUATION, GOC THINKS IT WOULD BE MISTAKE TO SYSTEMATIZE DC APPROACH AT PRESENT TIME. HE SUGGESTED THAT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION WILL BE TEST OF THIS THEORY. IF 7TH SS TURNED OUT TO BE REPEAT OF 6TH SS THERE MIGHT BE SOME VALUE IN FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF DC TACTICS.

6. COMMENT: GOC REACTION IS IN LINE WITH PM TRUDEAU'S RECENT PRONOUNCEMENTS EMPHASIZING CONCERN FOR THIRD WORLD'S PROBLEMS AND NEED FOR MORE EQUITABLE SHARING OF WORLD'S WEALTH. IT IS A POSITION WHICH IS NOT ALWAYS WELL RECEIVED IN SOME OTHER PARTS OF EXTAFF AND ESPECIALLY IN DEPARTMENTS SUCH AS ITC AND FINANCE WHICH ARE MORE CONCERNED WITH PROTECTING CANADA'S INTERESTS ON INDIVIDUAL SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. EMBOFFS HEAR COMMENTS THAT REFLECT THE SAME CYNICISM HARDY SEES IN OTHER DCS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUCH AS THAT BY A SENIOR ITC OFFICIAL WHO, WHEN ASKED ABOUT WHAT THE GOC INTENDED TO DO ABOUT A DC/LDC TRADE ISSUE SAID: "WE'LL PLAY TO THE GALLERY." PORTER

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